



## MILWAUKEE NUMISMATIC NEWS

**May 2017 – The next regular MNS meeting will be held Thursday, May 18, 2017, 7 PM, at the Mayfair Mall Community Room. May is our semi-annual club auction month and the list of nice items offered by our members for sale can be found elsewhere in this issue.**

President: Justin Perrault  
Secretary: John Bleidorn  
Sgt. at Arms: Jeff Gaffke  
Trustee '17-'19: Dave Hunsicker  
Librarian: Joe Paonessa

Vice President: Jim Heinrich  
Treasurer: Lee Hartz  
Trustee '15-'17: Tom Dallmann  
Trustee '16-'18: Gary Bieringer  
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*The Milwaukee Numismatic Society, founded in 1934, is the oldest and largest organization in Milwaukee devoted to the study of money. Meetings are held at 7:00 PM on the third Thursday of each month in the Community Room on the lower level of Mayfair Mall (W. North Avenue at N. Mayfair Road). Our annual coin show is held in October.*

**May Coin of the Month:** This month we have a six-coin 2004 Westward Journey nickel set, with two proofs and four uncirculated pieces, issued by the US Mint in a plastic collector display case. All coins are in perfect condition with certificate of authenticity and original box. Starting price for the set is \$8!



## May 2017 MNS President's Message

For everyone that attended this year's club-sponsored bus trip to the Central States show in Schaumburg, I hope that you enjoyed it. For those of you that were unable to attend, there will of course be next year. We had a total of twenty-three passengers on the bus. Everyone seemed to be in high spirits after the show for the ride home, sharing stories of their latest acquisitions while we were stuck in the rush hour traffic on the Illinois Tollway. Even though we were at the show for a total of seven hours, the time seemed to fly by with all of the activities. Not only were there hundreds of dealer tables to browse and a multitude of exhibits to take in, there were also several very interesting educational talks.

I attended three such talks, one by Doug Davis on the numismatic crime center and the work his organization does to keep the hobby safe from predators and thievery. For those of you not signed up for his regular e-mail alerts, I would highly recommend it, as it keeps you up to speed on the latest thefts and security issues in the hobby. Check out his website at [www.numismaticcrimes.org](http://www.numismaticcrimes.org) and sign up today. I also attended a talk by Greg Rohan, president of the Heritage Auctions. His stories about the people he has met and rarities he has been able to personally handle would make any collector green with envy.

Coming up at our next meeting is the semi-annual club auction. We will have a broad and varied selection of lots for the members to bid on. As you will also see in the calendar, we will not have a regularly scheduled meeting in August. Instead, we will hold our summer club outing at the Chudnow Museum of Yesteryear, located near downtown Milwaukee. Plan to meet there on Saturday, August 19, at 10:00 AM when it opens and we can tour their collection. The Chudnow collection of memorabilia, housed in an historic residence, is comprised of many items of local interest collected over the years. It is much like the "Streets of Old Milwaukee" but on a grander scale. Admission to this event will be complimentary for all dues-paying club members. Afterwards we will convene nearby at the newly renovated Pabst Brewery housed in the historic church on the Pabst campus to enjoy some drinks and conviviality.

Here's looking forward to seeing you at the May meeting and ready to do some bidding in our Spring auction!

Happy Collecting,  
Justin J. Perrault  
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Happy members return home after a great day of coining; Jeff is really excited, but what's Dave doing?

# MN\$ 2017

## Schedule

Monthly meetings are held at 7:00 pm on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of each month in the Community Meeting Room in the lower level of Mayfair Mall. Visitors interested in numismatics are welcome.

## Monthly meeting programs

Jan 19:	Officer Inductions
Feb 16:	Open
March 16:	Rev. Paul Bulgerin: Numismatic Archaeology
April 20:	Dave Hunsicker: Milwaukee Transportation Collectables
April 27:	CSNS Bus Trip (8 AM-5 PM)
May 18:	Spring Auction
June 15:	Open
July 20:	Tom Casper: Collecting, Buying, and Selling on E-Bay
Aug 17:	NO MEETING
Aug 19:	Summer Outing at Chudnow Museum of Yesteryear (10 AM) 839 N. 11 <sup>th</sup> Street, Milwaukee
Sept 21:	Open
Oct 19:	Raffle Ticket Prize Drawing
Nov 16:	Autumn Auction; Election Slate
Dec 21:	Holiday Party; Officer Elections

## Annual Dues

Dues for 2017 are \$10. Please pay Leon A. at the next meeting, or they may be mailed to MNS, PO Box 241174, Milwaukee, WI 53224. Thanks to those who have paid.

## 2017 Numismatic Events

May 7	Sheboygan CC, Kohler, The Village at 170
June 10	Barron County Coin Club Show 2900 S. Main St. Rice Lake, WI Cedar Mall: 9:30-3 PM
August 13	Beaver Dam Coin Show 300 Beichl Ave.
August 20	American Legion: 9-3 PM Fond du Lac Coin Show 625 W. Rolling Meadows Holiday Inn: 9-4 PM
September 24	Loves Park, IL Coin Show 1601 West Lane Road Forest Hill Lodge: 9-3 PM
October 1	MNS Coin Show, Serb Hall 9 AM – 4 PM

## Refreshment Schedule

Jan:	Dave Herrwig
Feb:	Jim Heinrich
Mar:	John Bleidorn
Apr:	Tom Dallmann
May:	Justin Perrault
Jun:	Open
Jul:	Open
Aug:	NO MEETING
Sep:	Open
Oct:	Open
Nov:	Open
Dec:	Holiday Party

## PLEASE NOTE:

MNS is a volunteer organization. We always need new and interesting programs, activities, helpers to work at events, and someone to bring refreshments for the meetings. We are also looking for ideas for club outings. MNS will reimburse refreshment expenses up to \$60. To volunteer, please contact Pres. Justin Perrault at 262.613.9996 or VP Jim Heinrich at 262.796.1814. Thanks to everyone who has stepped up by volunteering their time and talent to make this club a success.

# Milwaukee Numismatic Society

## Minutes

April 20, 2017

President Justin Perrault called the 978th meeting of the MNS to order at 7:03pm. There were 21 members in attendance. The president led the club in the pledge of allegiance. Door prizes were won by: Bob B, Leon S, Neil S, Tom S, Leon A, John B, Tom C, Tom D, Bruce B, Peter J, Steve J.

**Coin of the Month:** Steve J won the coin of the month, an encapsulated BU 1959 Roosevelt dime with a bid of \$15.00.

**Treasurer's Report:** April showed receipts of \$93.00 and \$1,344.18 in disbursements, for a negative cash flow of \$1,251.18.

**Correspondence:** Numismatist magazine, Centinel, NOW News.

**Newsletter:** Newsletter articles and clippings are always appreciated.

**Membership:** A moment of silence was observed for long-time member and vigorous volunteer Betty Petrovick who passed away on March 25<sup>th</sup>.

**Programming:** The upcoming outing to the Chudnow Museum was discussed. The June meeting slot is open for a program if anyone would like to contact VP Jim H. June & onward is also open for refreshments to be brought in by members.

**Show & Tell:** Tom C-New Pabst brewery, Tom D-Ancient coins, Leon S-Double-struck Armenian coins, Peter J-Columbian Exposition medals, Bruce B, Brutus & the Ides of March, Jeff G-Masters & FUN coins, Bank notes, Neil S-Milwaukee transportation tickets for Dave H's presentation.

**Presenter:** Dave H spoke about the history of Milwaukee public transit and showed numerous collectible items.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:05 pm by President Perrault.

Respectfully submitted by John Bleidorn



Scouts and volunteers at the April 8 Boy Scout Merit Badge Clinic (John Wilson photo)

## MPC Fest held in Ohio, Neil Shafer Big Winner

By Tom Casper

The 18th annual MPC Fest was held from March 31 to April 2, 2017, in Port Clinton, Ohio. They call it a Fest because it is not a traditional coin show. It is run by Fred Schwan and Joe Boling who are the authors of the book *WWII Remembered* and are instructors at the ANA Summer Seminar. The 50 or so people who attend are interested in military or emergency money. This includes emergency money, Japanese invasion money, MPC's (Military Payment Certificates), and savings/war bonds. It involves a dining experience, a military poker game, lectures, bourse, auction and the world championship March Madness contest. Several MNS members regularly attend the annual event. This year, MNS members Karen Jach and Dave Hunsicker were among the attendees, as was Neil Shafer. It was just announced in the MPC Gram that Neil won the National Championship Contest on military trivia. That makes him a three-time champion and he joins Jim Downey of Wisconsin and Bill Myers as the only three-time champions. This allows Neil to retire from the future contests. Congratulations, Neil. If you are interested in military money you can subscribe to the free MPC Gram at [MPCGram@yahoo.com](mailto:MPCGram@yahoo.com).

## 31 Boy Scouts Attend MNS Merit Badge Clinic

By John Wilson

The Milwaukee Numismatic Society held its 37<sup>th</sup> Annual Boy Scout Coin Collecting Merit Badge Clinic in conjunction with the SSCC annual coin show on Saturday April 8. The clinic was coordinated by Leon Saryan, PhD, along with assistance of several MNS members. Speakers for the clinic were Leon Saryan, Bruce Benoit, and Lee Hartz. Justin Perrault handled the computer slide show, and other volunteers included Gary Bieringer, Josh Whitehall, Howard Thorpe and David Herrewig. The MNS Boy Scout clinic was started in 1981 by Lee Hartz and Tom Casper. The clinic was revamped by Bruce Benoit in 2005. Before the clinic ended Bruce Benoit took the scouts and their family members on a tour of the show bourse and exhibit area. Each scout received a goodie bag filled with coins and supplies compliments of MNS. Out of the 31 scouts who took the clinic (including some from as far away as northern Illinois), 30 passed all requirements. The MNS extends special thanks Crowne Plaza Hotel Banquet Director Michelle whose timely support prevented a disaster of major proportions.



Scenes from the 2017 MNS Scout Clinic (Bruce Benoit photos)



EUROPEAN PRESS AGENCY

A museum visitor admires the 'Big Maple Leaf' coin at the Bode Museum before the 220-pound treasure was stolen.

# \$4 million gold coin stolen from museum

JOHN BACON  
USA TODAY

The stunning heist of a 220-pound gold coin worth more than \$4 million from a German museum has bewildered authorities in Berlin and sparked a desperate hunt before it is melted down.

The Canadian coin, known as "Big Maple Leaf," has a diameter of more than 20 inches and is more than an inch thick.

It has a face value of \$1 million, but the value of the gold is closer to \$4.5 million.

"My bet is that it has already been melted down," Douglas Mudd, curator for the American Numismatic Association, told USA TODAY. "To go through all this trouble, you have to have a plan unless you are a total idiot."

An official at the Bode Museum discov-

ered the theft early Monday, and on Tuesday Berlin police revealed the details.

The thieves used a ladder to access a window, smashed it and broke into a bullet-proof glass case.

The ladder was found on nearby railroad tracks, and police said the bandits apparently made off with the coin in a wheelbarrow, rolling it along the tracks and then lowering it on a rope to a park before fleeing by car into the Berlin night.

The coin features a portrait of Queen Elizabeth II on the front and three maple leaves on the back. It was issued by the Royal Canadian Mint a decade ago, part of a promotional campaign for a line of gold coins. It's been on loan to the Bode from a private collection since 2010, museum officials said.

# Coin flips area church's fate

Valparaiso church's tale of donated coin brings lessons of faith

JOYCE RUSSELL

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VALPARAISO — Ben Lamb said he was about as down as he could be a few months ago.

Pastor of GracePoint Church, Lamb said church members had been giving with open hearts and wallets for months to help finance a new church facility.

"We had kids bringing in bags of coins from their piggy bank. People were giving up vacations they were planning," said Jeff Smith, worship director.

Then push came to shove. They met with the lender, who told church officers they needed to come up with \$300,000 to guarantee a loan.

"I was overwhelmed. We worked so hard, but, I thought, it was over," Lamb recalled, saying he was about to tell church members their plans for their own home were finished.

Then, he said, God intervened.

One Sunday soon after, a man who had been attending the church for four Sundays committed \$150,000 to help guarantee the loan.

"After the second service, here comes this lady. She's said, 'I've got this coin,'" recalled Lamb, adding both benefactors wanted to remain anonymous.

Initially, the woman wanted to loan the coin to the church to help guarantee the loan. Minutes into the conversation, said Lamb, she changed her mind. She would donate the 1866 Double Eagle \$20 gold piece to the church.

"It said on it 'In God we Trust,'" Lamb said.

The coin, it turns out, could be valued at \$300,000 or more and is scheduled to go on auction Thursday in Schaumburg, Illinois, through Heritage Auctions.

"If somebody doesn't believe, this has to change their mind. He put us in that corner that we got to have faith and trust," said



JOYCE RUSSELL, THE TIMES

Jeff Smith, worship director, and Ben Lamb, pastor, stand in what will be the auditorium of GracePoint Church. The church recently received two anonymous donations, including a rare 1866 coin, to help finance its building project.

Lamb.

The coin has also turned the little church that had moved from one makeshift home to another since its founding eight years ago into a national celebrity.

Lamb said the two congregants made their donations in February. The goal was to keep it a secret for a couple of months. Then the coin hit the cover of Heritage Auctions' magazine.

The Associated Press noticed. Then came the local, regional and national media. He's received interview requests from as far as Los Angeles; Dallas; Virginia Beach, Virginia; and Bozeman, Montana.

Lamb had to tell the congregation early before they heard the good news through the media.

## The little church that could

Lamb said the church was formed in 2009. It is non-denominational and caters to those he calls the "unchurched."

Twenty-four people attended the first service held at the Legacy Banquet Center.

The church "took off," said Lamb, describing it as being

"big on production and creative environment."

The trailer that stored the church's equipment between Sunday services grew from eight feet to 16, then to 21 feet. Now a 53-foot semi trailer is used.

The church moved services from the banquet center to Washington Township Elementary School in 2012 and has maxed out its capacity. Today there are about 750 members.

"We weren't going to be able to meet there much longer," said Lamb, adding officials began scouring Porter County and Valparaiso for a new home before they found the former furniture store on U.S. 30 on Valparaiso's west side.

They purchased the building and began a fundraising campaign in 2015.

The plan is to construct the church in phases, including a 526-seat auditorium and a "Jesus version of Disneyland for the kids," he said.

Now, said Smith and Lamb, the plans can move forward.

"We had to keep trusting in God," said Smith. "It is a confirmation that what God starts he finishes."

## MNS Auction May 18, 2017

### Lot #

- 1 Six 1935 US Silver certificates, \$6 face value, MB \$5
- 2 Seventeen 1957 US Silver certificates, \$17 face value, MB \$16
- 3 Canada older \$1 and \$2 notes, \$11 face value, MB \$10
- 4 1928 Milwaukee to Green Bay First Flight, postmarked cover, MB \$5
- 5 Vintage Milwaukee Violet Theatre ticket, 2450-52 W. Vliet St., admit 2
- 6 WW II Pacific Theatre Short Snorter, 16 different loose notes, signatures, several locations, ca. 1945
- 7 US TYPE SET 5 cent pieces: half dime and 4 nickels, all 5 coins in deluxe plastic display case, MB \$10
- 8 Lot of 34 Wisconsin plastic beer and bar tokens, all different, some rare towns, great variety
- 9 1948 October Milwaukee TMER&T weekly Bus Pass
- 10 Pres. Jimmy Carter 70 mm proof bronze Inaugural Medal, MB \$5
- 11 Lot of 10 **huge huge** "coins" made of metal, plastic, and rubber, several KEY DATES
- 12 Lot of 7 miscellaneous ADULT tokens, brass and aluminum. **Explicit!!**
- 13 Lot of 10 different better grade 90% silver Mercury dimes, MB \$10
- 14 Booklet of 20 first class postage stamps, \$9.80 face value, MB \$6
- 15 Pack of collectible money cards
- 16 Collectible coffee mug
- 17 1887 Report Trade & Commerce Milw. Book with picture of new Milw. Road Depot list of city breweries, more
- 18 Boston 10/30/1866 one thousand pound exchange note with big IRS rev. stamp
- 19 True story of Old Abe the War Eagle
- 20 1989 MNS/NOW medal over struck on a peace dollar
- 21 Five humorous postcards 1910/1911
- 22 1918 Schwaab medal for N. American Skat League showing the Auditorium
- 23 1892 Columbian half dollar
- 24 1875 Milw. Bank of Commerce check with unusual IRS stamp
- 25 1946-D Booker T. Washington half dollar
- 26 Five Canadian large cents with book of the life of Queen Victoria
- 27 Early Lincoln cents in folder, cat value \$30, MB \$5
- 28 Lincoln cents in folder 1941-1974 in folder, 97 coins, MB \$1
- 29 Foreign coins in bag, MB \$4
- 30 Marine Bank 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary large medal 1839-1939
- 31 Philippines Japanese invasion money, 1, 5, 10, 100 peso, MB \$2
- 32 5 Wisconsin cancelled checks, 1 has revenue imprint, 1 has revenue stamp. MB \$5
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